



Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park Traffic Impact Study and Subarea Transportation Plan

Welcome!

Thank you for coming to today's public open house for the Chickamauga transportation study.



Please look at the displays, ask any questions that you might have and give us your comments on the transportation improvement strategies for the Park and surrounding area.

Your input is important.



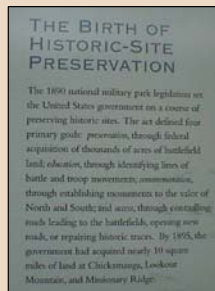
Study Purpose

The National Park Service (NPS) has sponsored a consultant study to evaluate changes and impacts in traffic patterns in and around the Chickamauga Battlefield Park resulting from the completion of the US 27 relocation in Walker County, Georgia. The study has two components: a Traffic Impact Study and a Subarea Transportation Plan.



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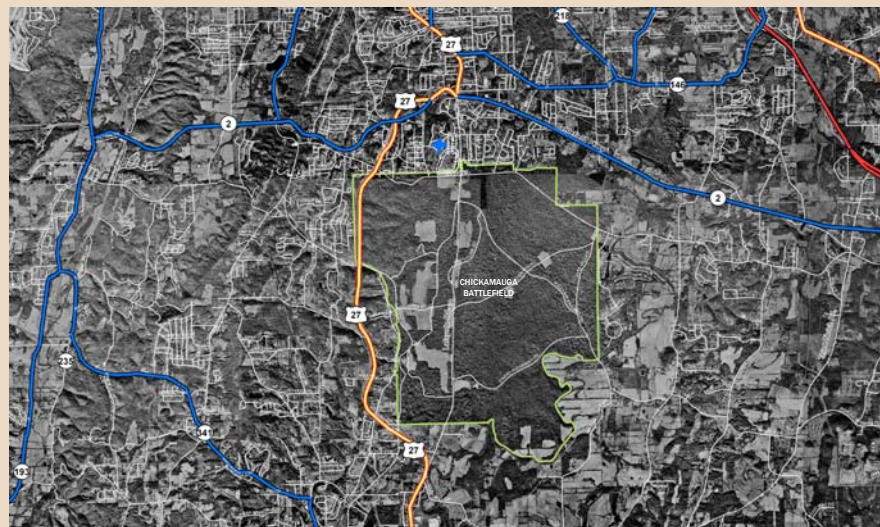


Study Focus

- Analyzed current and future travel patterns.
- Evaluated impacts of future growth and development in the area.
- Identified area needs and issues.
- Recommend short- and long-term transportation improvements that reflect needs of both the Chickamauga Battlefield Park and surrounding communities.



Study Area Map



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Traffic Impact Study

Study area

Portions of Walker County, Catoosa County, and Fort Oglethorpe surrounding the Chickamauga Battlefield



Approach

- Reviewed existing and future transportation needs.
- Evaluated the impact of the US 27 relocation on traffic volumes and congestion in the surrounding area.
- Addressed environmental justice considerations as part of the process.

Products

- Program of transportation improvement strategies that can be considered in the Chattanooga-Hamilton County/North Georgia Transportation Planning Organization planning process.



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Subarea Transportation Plan

Study Area

Chickamauga Battlefield Unit of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park

Approach

- Addressed the unique needs of the Park and its role as an important local and national cultural and historic resource.
- Considered the visitor experience within the transportation context.

Products

- Set of transportation improvement strategies that reflect the unique needs of the Park and preserve its role as an important local and national cultural and historic resource.
- Recommendations will be considered by NPS in preparation of Park's General Management Plan (GMP) update.



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Project Context

- Expanding Chattanooga urbanized area boundaries around the Chickamauga Battlefield
- Change in orientation of Fort Oglethorpe business district from north-south to east-west along SR 2/Battlefield Parkway
- Increase in traffic on local roads due to local and regional travel demand
- Chickamauga Battlefield Unit of the CCNMP is national resource and has congressional mandate



Improvement Strategy Identification and Screening

- Strategies aim to balance improved mobility and accessibility in the Traffic Impact Study area within cultural and historic context of the Chickamauga Battlefield
- Fifteen evaluation criteria used to screen potential improvement strategies

Traffic Impact Study area	Battlefield Subarea
Capacity	Capacity
Operations	Operations
Safety	Safety
Wayfinding	Wayfinding
Cost	Cultural and Natural Resources
Economic Impact	CCNMP Policies and Goals
Environmental Justice	Visitor Experience
Cultural and Natural Resources	



Data Collection and Analysis

- Reviewed area plans, documents, and planned projects
- Conducted two origin-destination surveys to develop understanding of area travel patterns and to aid in Chattanooga MPO travel demand model refinement
- Evaluated safety and operational conditions
- Identified cultural and natural resources in the “gateway” areas outside the Battlefield
- Developed sensitivity rating for Chickamauga Battlefield roadways



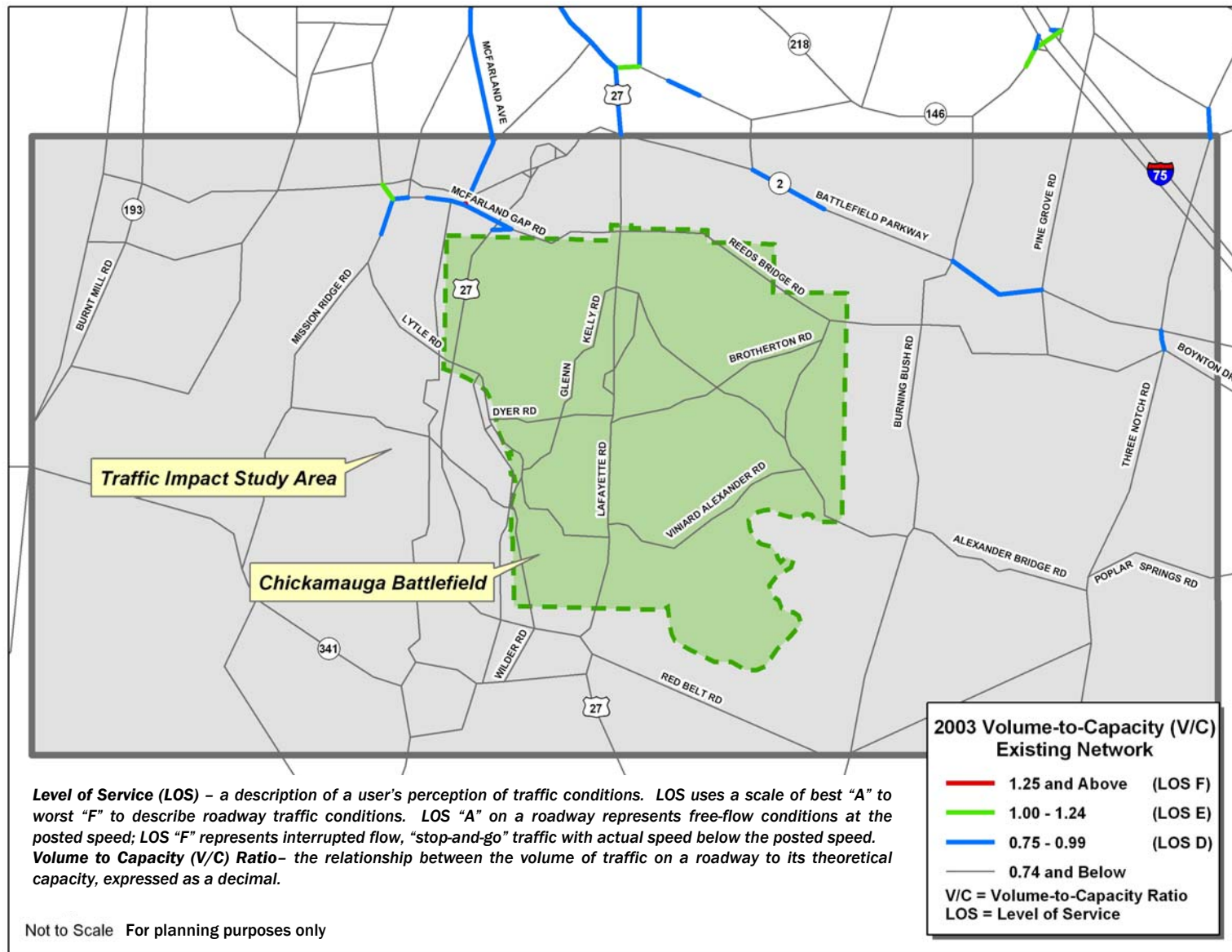
Strategies Grouped into Five Categories

- Traffic Impact area east-west mobility
- Traffic Impact area north-south mobility
- Traffic Impact area gateways
- Chickamauga Battlefield Subarea
- Chickamauga Battlefield Subarea consideration in the General Management Plan (GMP) process



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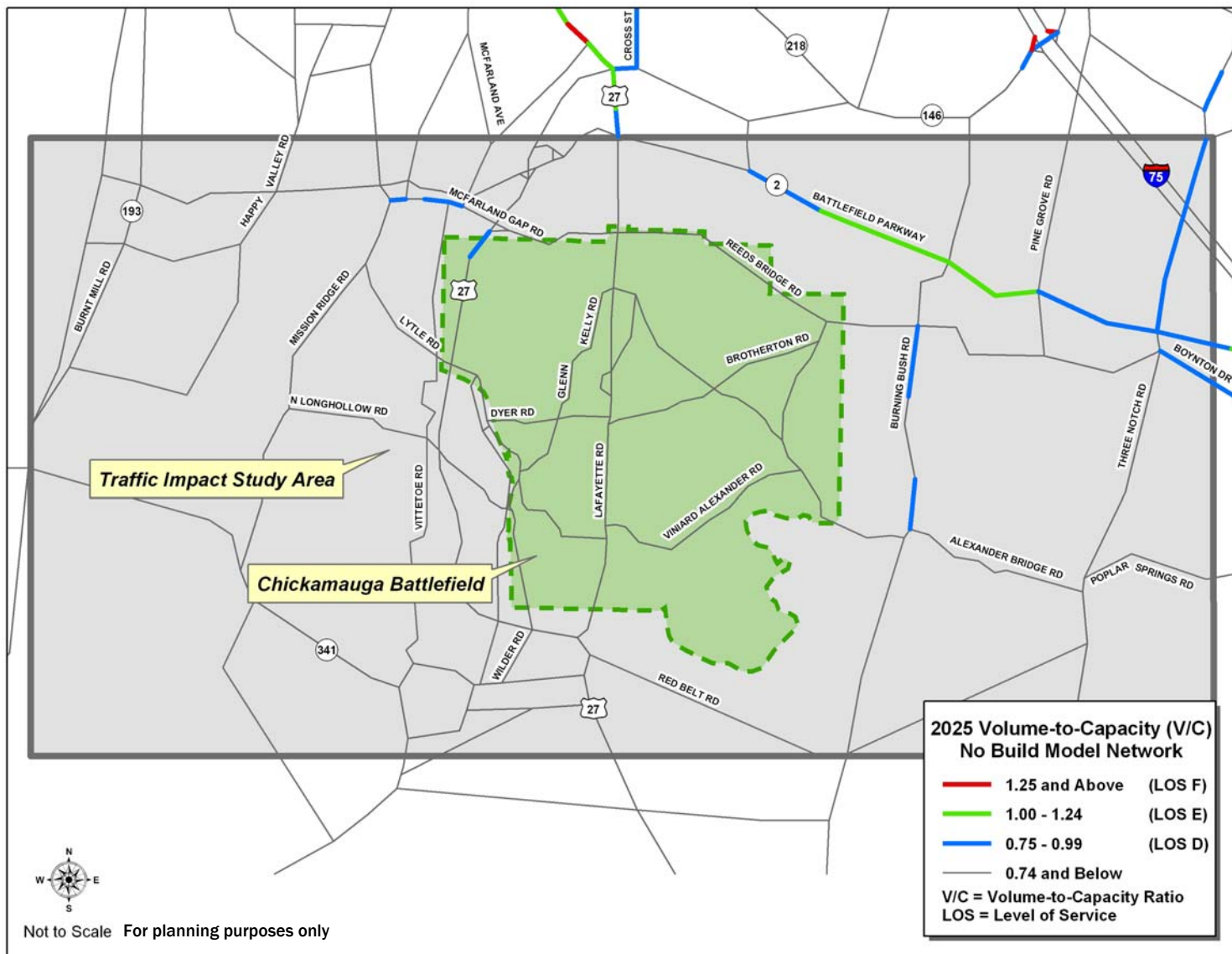
2003 Volume-to-Capacity on Base Model Existing Network





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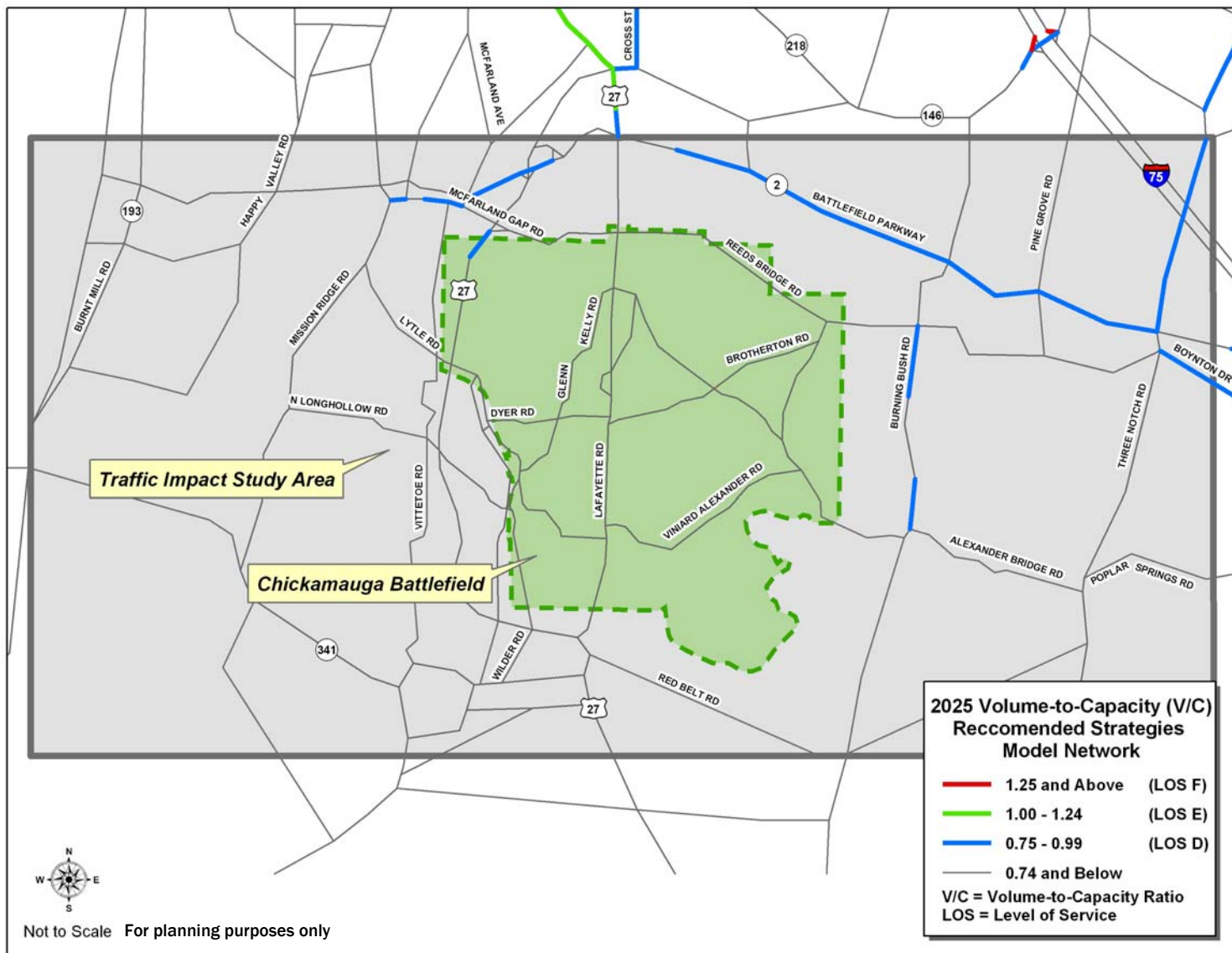
2025 Volume-to-Capacity on No Build Model Network





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2025 Volume-to-Capacity on Recommended Strategies Model Network





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Traffic Impact Area Proposed Plan Strategies – North-South Mobility

Strategy Description	Need and Purpose or Justification	Impact/Mitigation
I-1: Extension of US 27 from SR 2/ Battlefield Parkway to SR 146/Cloud Springs Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alleviate existing and projected congestion on LaFayette Road north of SR 2• Reduce non-Park traffic inside the Chickamauga Battlefield	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Environmental justice community may be impacted• Project will have to identify ways to minimize impacts on community, cultural, and natural resources
I-4: Intersection improvements at SR 2/ Battlefield Parkway and LaFayette Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alleviate existing and projected congestion at the intersection of LaFayette Road and SR 2• Projected level of service (LOS) F in 2025	
I-5: Improve intersection at US 27 relocation and Osburn Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safety concerns at this intersection due to travel patterns changes• Sight distance for entering and exiting US 27 relocation	
I-6: Improve Three Notch Road and Red Belt Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve north-south connectivity and mobility east of the Battlefield	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project will have to identify ways to minimize impacts on community, cultural, and natural resources
I-8: Improve shoulders and alignment on Burning Bush Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide better north-south connectivity east of the Battlefield• Safety concerns and limited horizontal sight distances	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project will have to identify ways to minimize impacts on community, cultural, and natural resources
I-9: Implement Demand Management program for commuters*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Optimize the study area's transportation network• Lessen travel demand on the network	

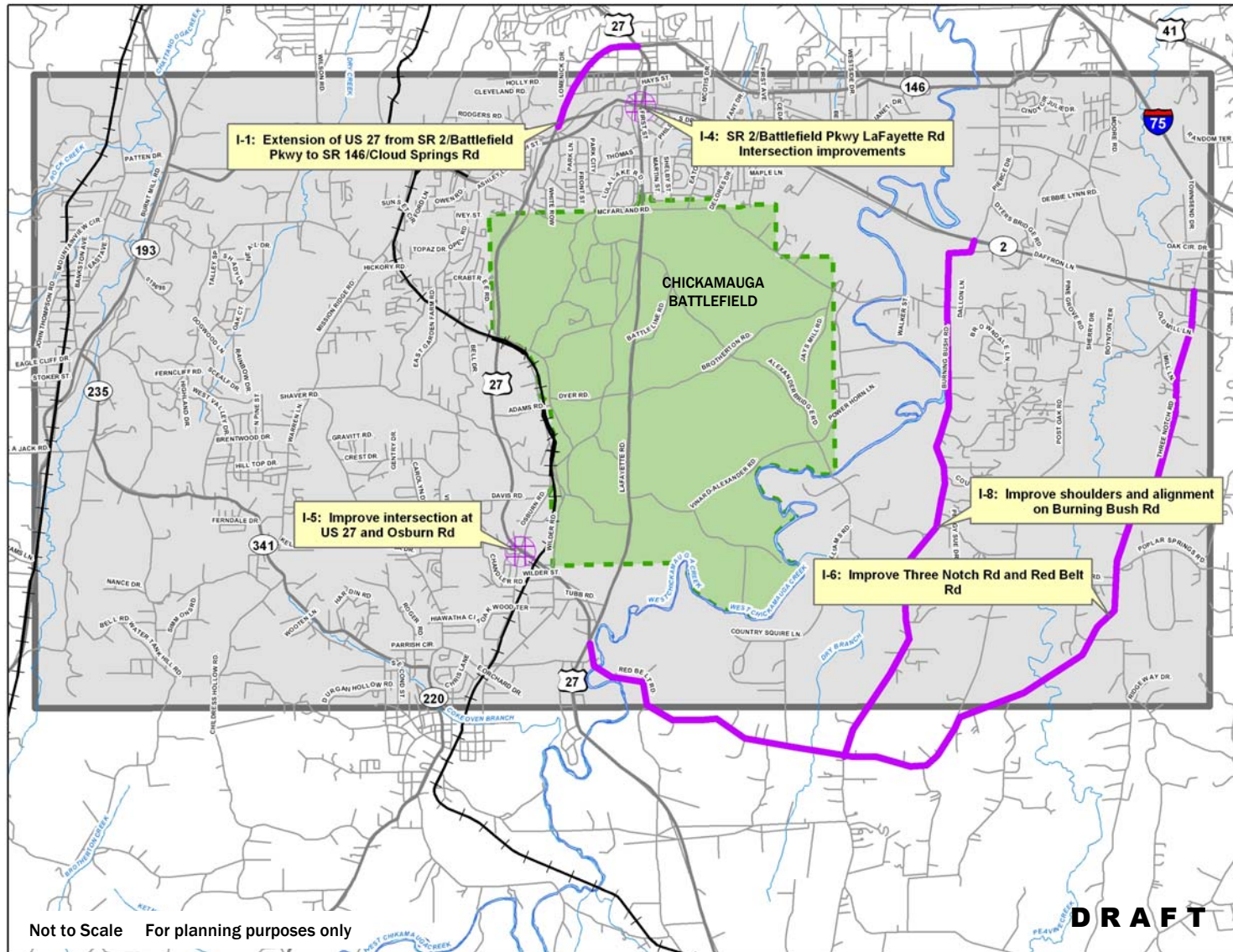
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* Strategy not shown on map.



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Traffic Impact Area Proposed Plan Strategies – North-South Mobility





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Traffic Impact Area Proposed Plan Strategies – East-West Mobility

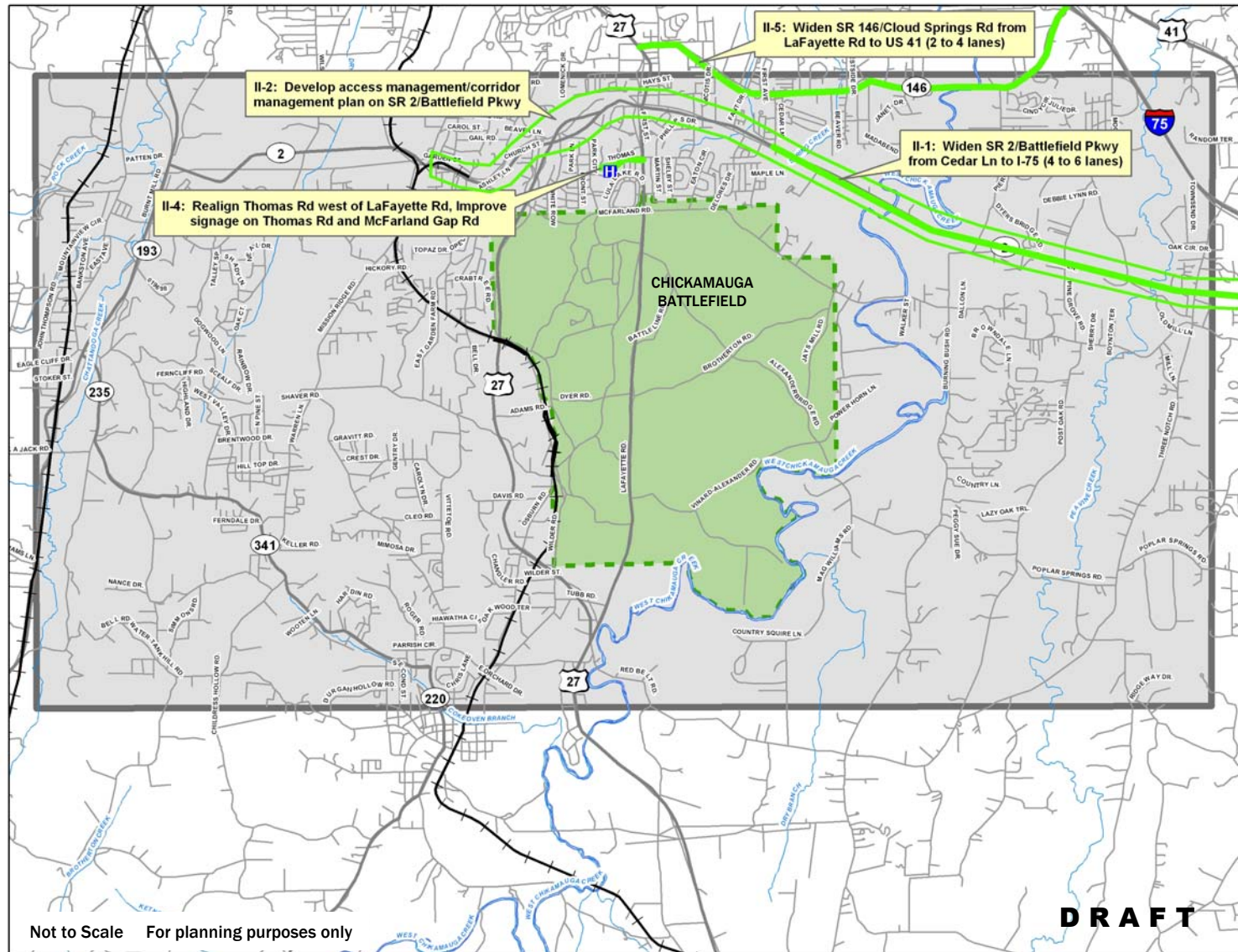
Strategy Description	Need and Purpose or Justification	Impact/Mitigation
II-1: Widen SR 2/Battlefield Parkway from Cedar Lane to I-75 (4 to 6 lanes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Projected congestion on SR 2/Battlefield Parkway	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Environmental justice community may be impactedProject will have to identify ways to minimize impacts on community, cultural, and natural resources
II-2: Develop access management/corridor management plan on SR 2/Battlefield Parkway	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Projected congestion on SR 2/Battlefield Parkway	
II-4: Realign Thomas Road west of LaFayette Road and improve signage on Thomas Road and McFarland Gap Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Improve access and wayfinding to the hospital area and the Fort Oglethorpe/LaFayette Road business district from the US 27 relocation	
II-5: Widen SR 146/Cloud Springs Road from LaFayette Road to US 41 (2 to 4 lanes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Projected congestionImprove east-west mobilitySafety concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Environmental justice community may be impacted

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Traffic Impact Area Proposed Plan Strategies – East-West Mobility





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Traffic Impact Area Proposed Plan Strategies – Gateway Connections

Strategy Description	Need and Purpose or Justification	Impact/Mitigation
III-1: Conduct joint land use/transportation study on LaFayette Road corridor between Chickamauga Battlefield and SR 2/Battlefield Parkway	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support revitalization of downtown Fort Oglethorpe• Mitigate impacts from loss of traffic due to the US 27 relocation	
III-2: Make streetscape improvements on LaFayette Road between Chickamauga Battlefield and SR 2/Battlefield Parkway and connect to Battlefield visitor center with multi-use path facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve Chickamauga Battlefield and surrounding gateway community connection	
III-3: Improve wayfinding signage to the Chickamauga Battlefield from surrounding area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve Chickamauga Battlefield and surrounding gateway community connection	
III-4: Develop coordinated wayfinding/signage program for historic sites outside and inside the Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve Chickamauga Battlefield and surrounding gateway community connection	
III-5: Consider excursion train between Chattanooga Choo-Choo site and the City of Chickamauga	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve Chickamauga Battlefield and surrounding gateway community connection	
III-6: Develop regional auto tour*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve Chickamauga Battlefield and surrounding gateway community connection	
III-7: Connect to the regional trail network	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve Chickamauga Battlefield and surrounding gateway community connection	

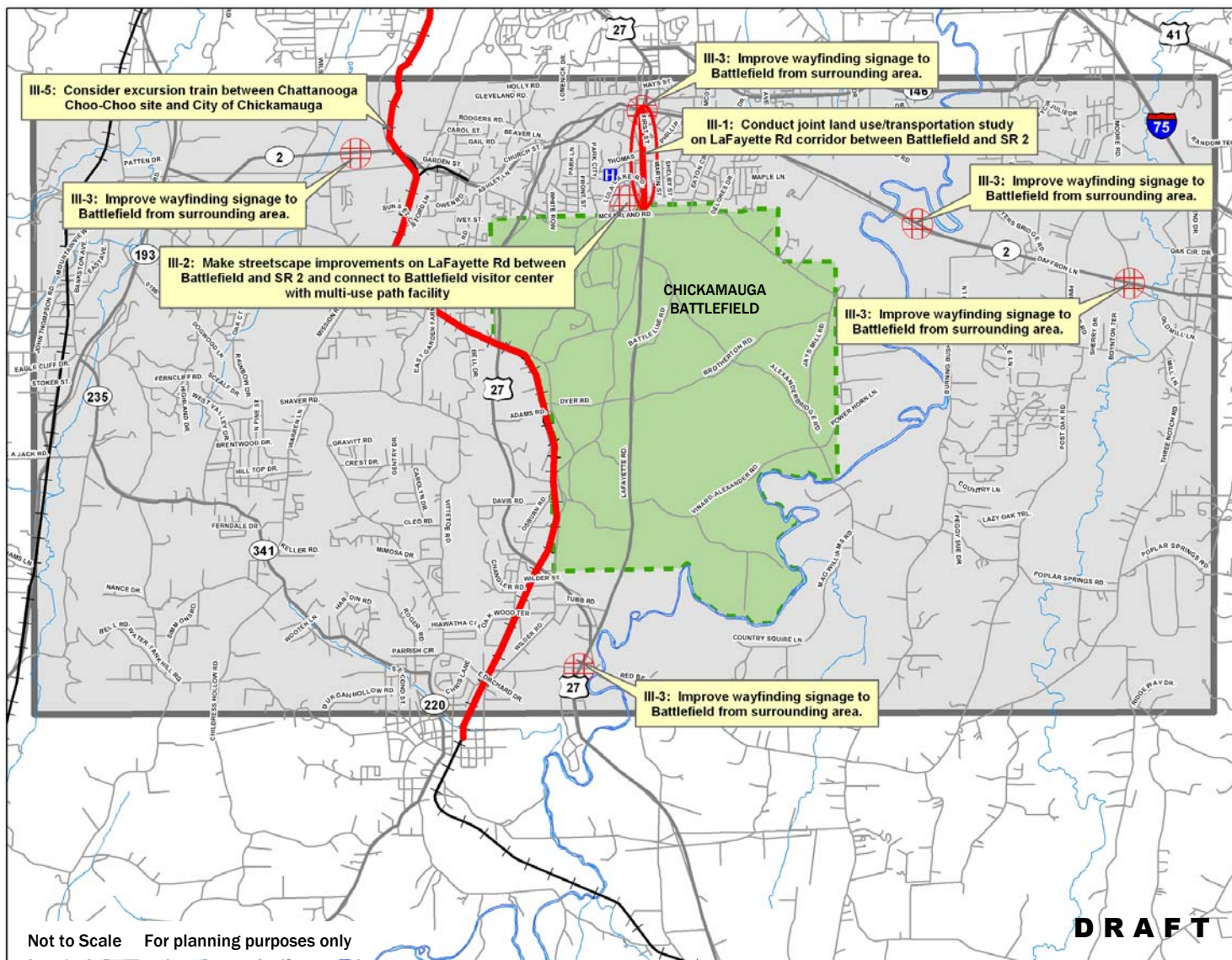
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* Strategy not shown on map.



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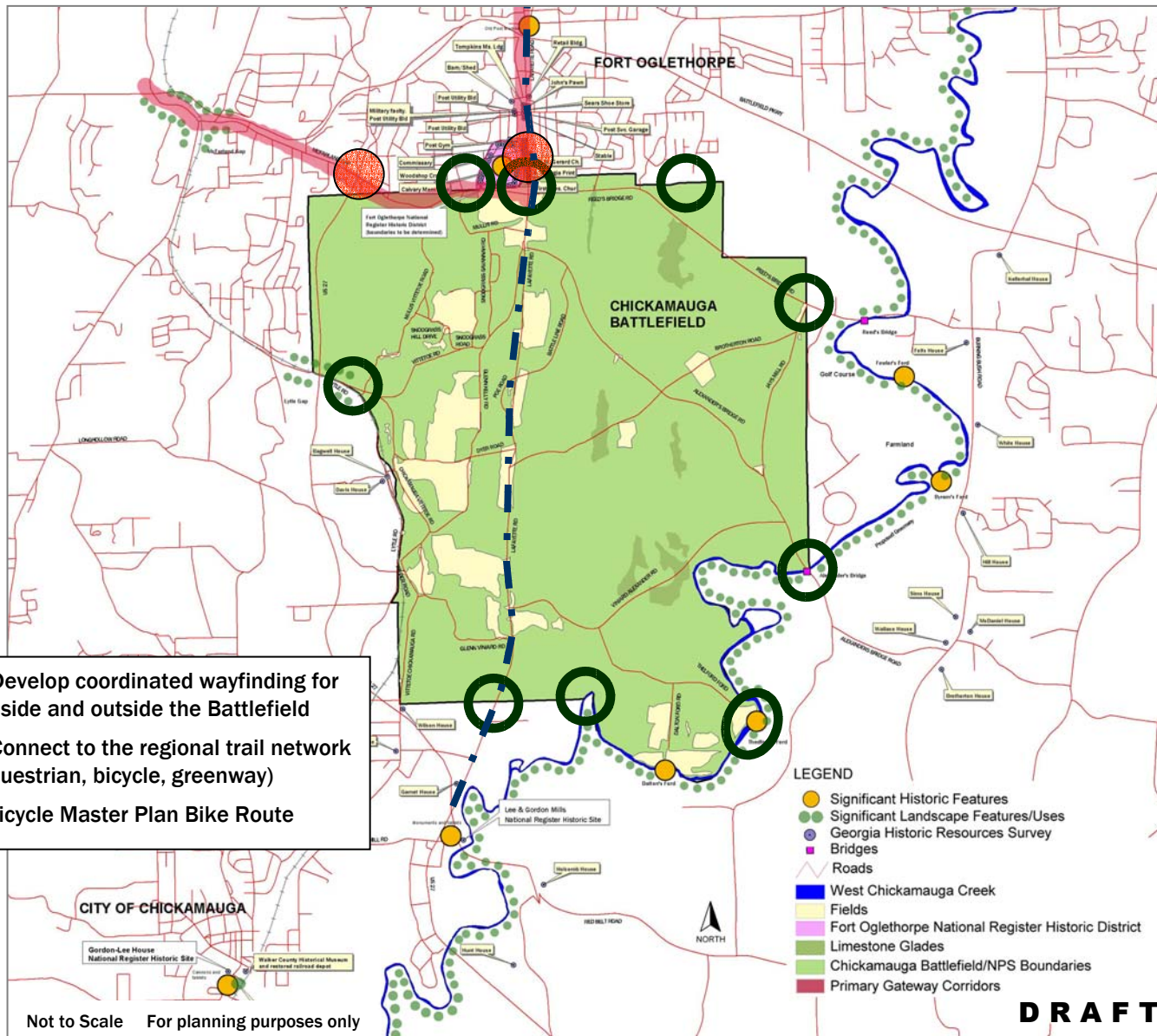
Traffic Impact Area Proposed Plan Strategies – Gateway Connections





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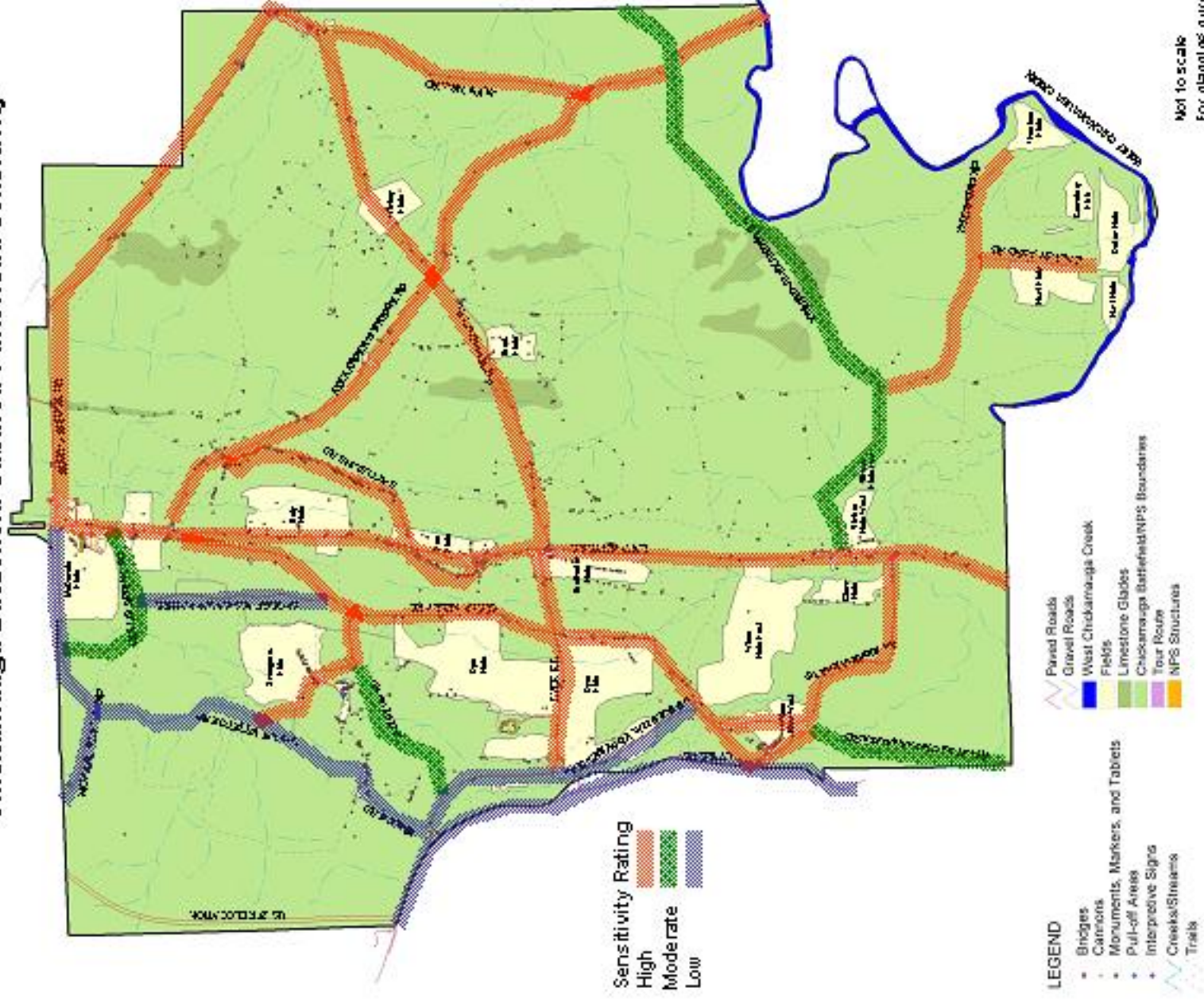
Traffic Impact Area Proposed Plan Strategies – Gateway Connections





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Chickamauga Battlefield Subarea Park Road Sensitivity





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Chickamauga Battlefield Subarea Proposed Plan Strategies

Strategy Description	Need and Purpose or Justification	Impact/Mitigation
IV-3: Circulation changes on Brotherton Road (one-way westbound), Viniard-Alexander Road (one-way eastbound), and Jay's Mill Road (one-way northbound)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor safety • Improve the interpretative experience • Support future development of expanded automobile tour routes and parking 	
IV-4: Gate closures at Park entrance locations: Lytle Road, Long Hollow Road, Wilder Road, and Jay's Mill Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor safety • Improve the interpretative experience • Protect resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project must identify if environmental justice communities are adversely impacted • Project must identify ways to maintain mobility on local roads outside Chickamauga Battlefield
IV-8: Change orientation and connection to Battlefield visitor center to McFarland Gap Road from LaFayette Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore historic fields and view sheds in the Chickamauga Battlefield landscape 	
IV-9: New directional signage at major intersections to major historic sites within the Battlefield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance wayfinding within the Park 	
IV-10: Clarify commercial vehicle standards for Park roads*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor safety • Reduce confusion among commercial vehicle operators • Improve the interpretative experience 	
IV-15: Gate closure at Alexander's Bridge Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the interpretative experience • Protect resources • Visitor safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project must identify ways to maintain mobility on local roads outside Chickamauga Battlefield

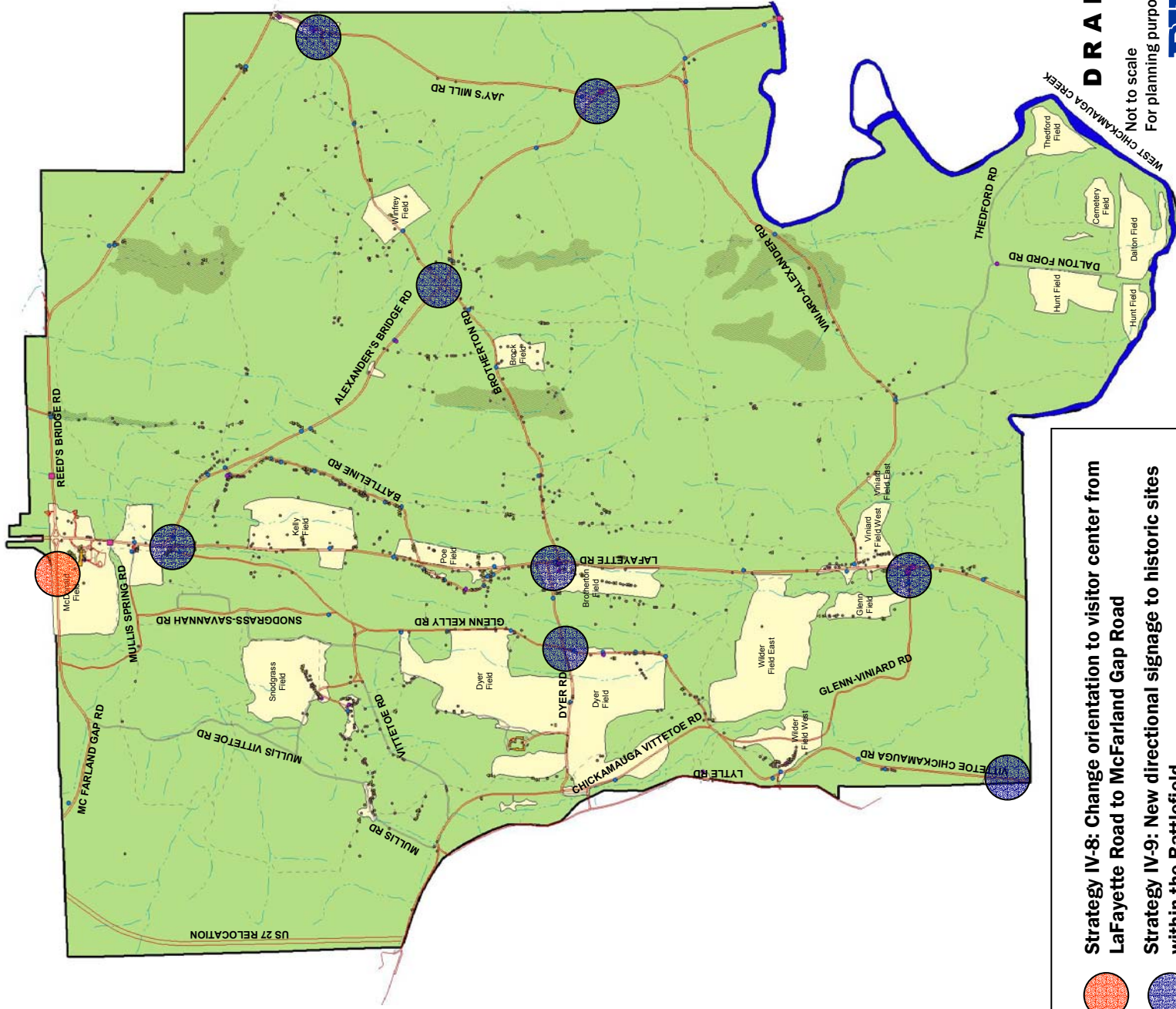
* Strategy not shown on map.

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Battlefield Subarea Proposed Plan Strategies – Visitor Center Orientation and Signage



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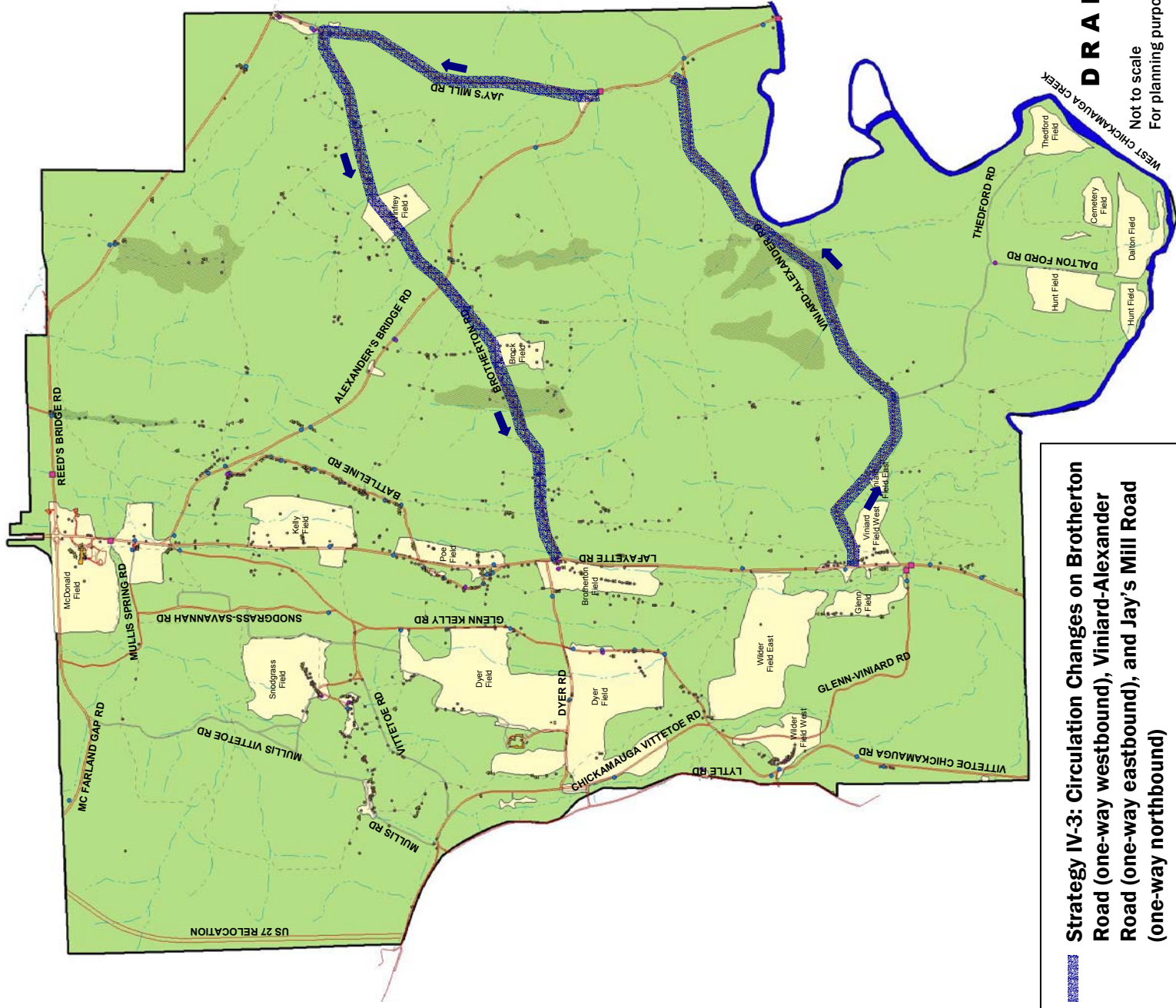
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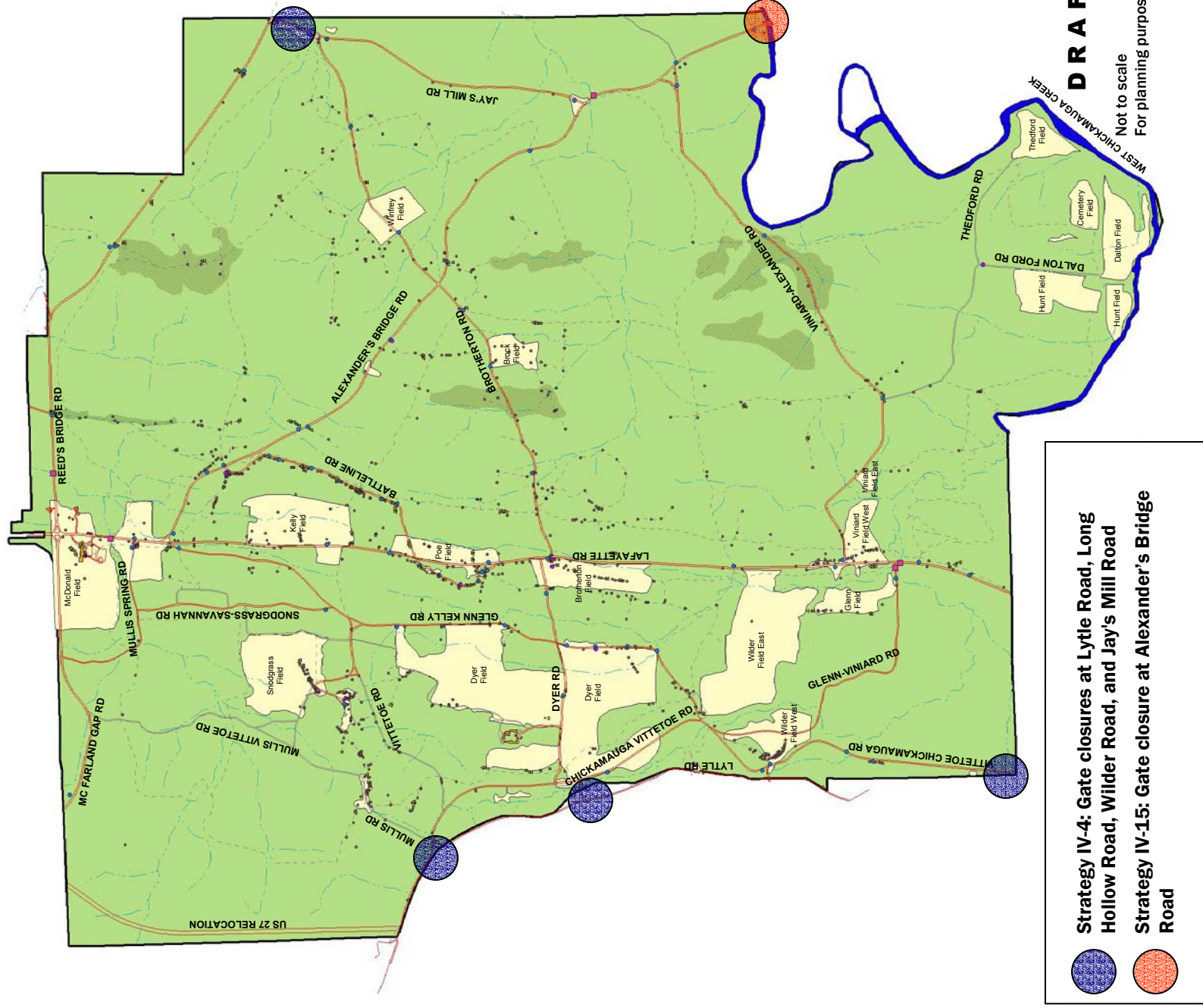
Battlefield Subarea Proposed Plan Strategy - Circulation Changes





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Battlefield Subarea Proposed Plan Strategies - Gate Closures





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Chickamauga Battlefield Proposed Strategies for Consideration in CCNMP General Management Plan (GMP)*

Strategy Description	Need and Purpose or Justification	Impact/Mitigation
IV-1: Expand tour route for automobiles - Alexander's Bridge Road to Jay's Mill Road to Brotherton Road to LaFayette Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor safety • Improve the interpretative experience 	
IV-2: Expand tour route for automobiles - Reed's Bridge Road to Jay's Mill Road to Brotherton Road to Alexander's Bridge Rd.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor safety • Improve the interpretative experience 	
IV-5: Expand touring routes for alternative modes (bicycling, pedestrian, equestrian) and include dedicated parking facilities**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor safety • Improve the interpretative experience 	
IV-6: Develop Park Road Multimodal Functional Classification System that includes design speed, road character/pavement surface type, modal designation and purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide enhanced road classification standards for all Park roads and trails 	
IV-7: Expand or enhance parking facilities and/or interpretive stations at Alexander's Bridge, Winfrey Field, Brock Field, Wilder Brigade Monument, Jay's Mill, Kelly Field, Viniard Field West and Reed's Bridge for expanded auto tour route(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor safety • Improve the interpretative experience 	
IV-11: Lower speed limit on LaFayette Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor safety • Protect Park cultural resources • Minimize non-Park traffic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project will need to identify ways to maintain mobility on US 27 relocation and SR 2/ Battlefield Parkway
IV-12: Lower speed limits on McFarland Gap Road and Reed's Bridge Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor safety • Protect Park cultural resources • Minimize non-Park traffic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project will need to identify ways to maintain mobility on US 27 relocation and SR 2/ Battlefield Parkway
IV-13: Develop an alternative transportation/Park shuttle system**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor safety • Improve interpretative experience 	

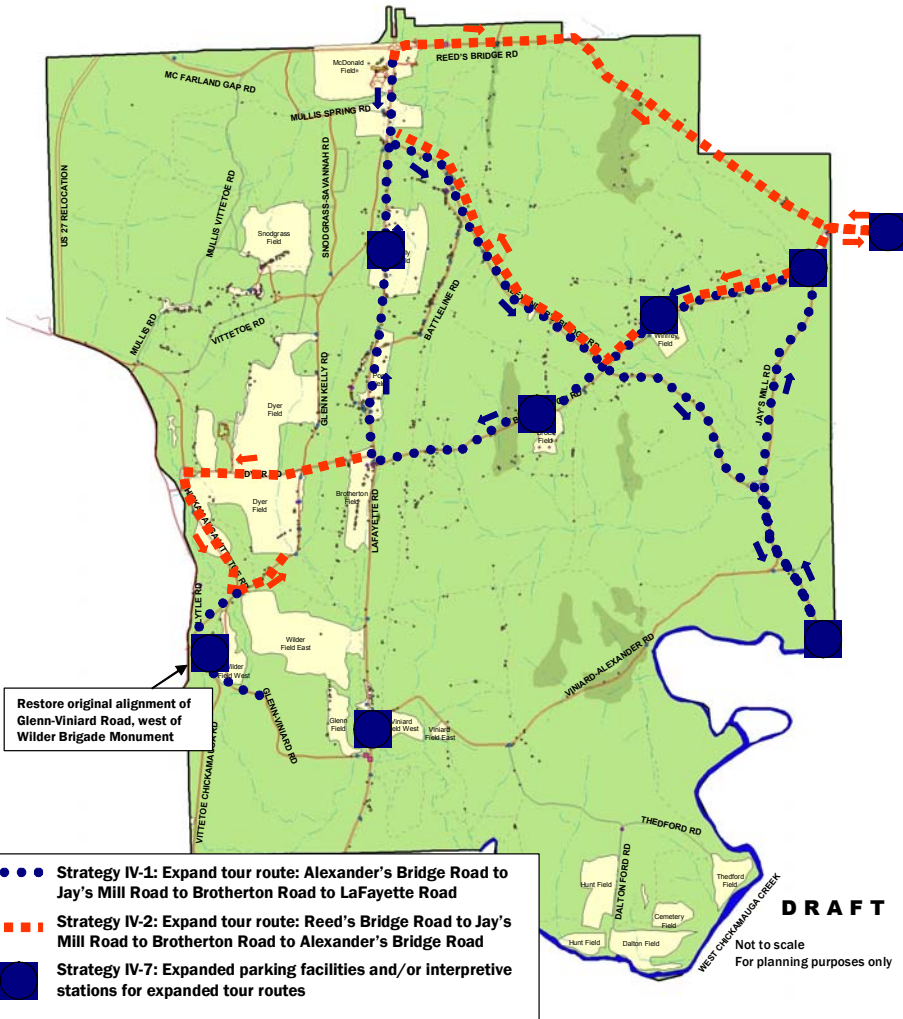
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* The transportation impact evaluation determined these strategies do not adversely impact mobility and access; however, their full impact related to Park operations and Park purpose cannot be assessed within this transportation study. **Strategy not shown on map.



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Battlefield Subarea GMP - Expanded Tour Routes, Interpretive Stations and Parking

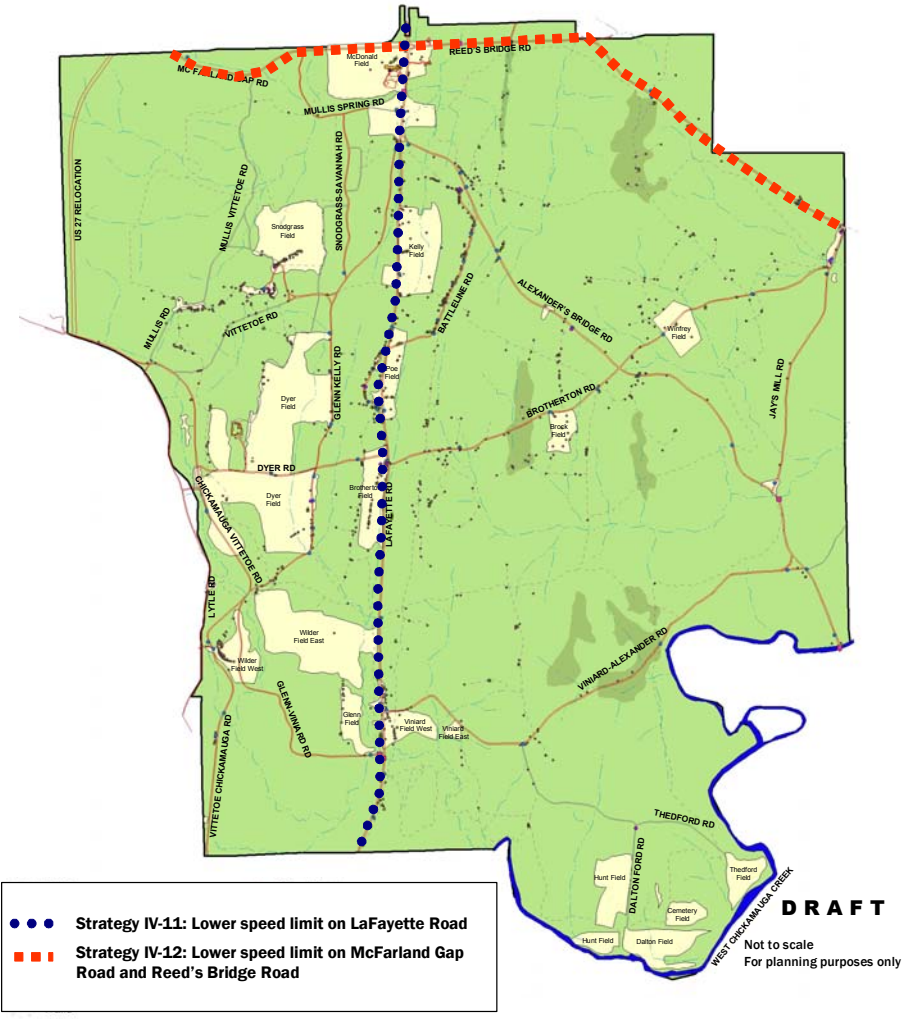


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Battlefield Subarea GMP - Operational Changes

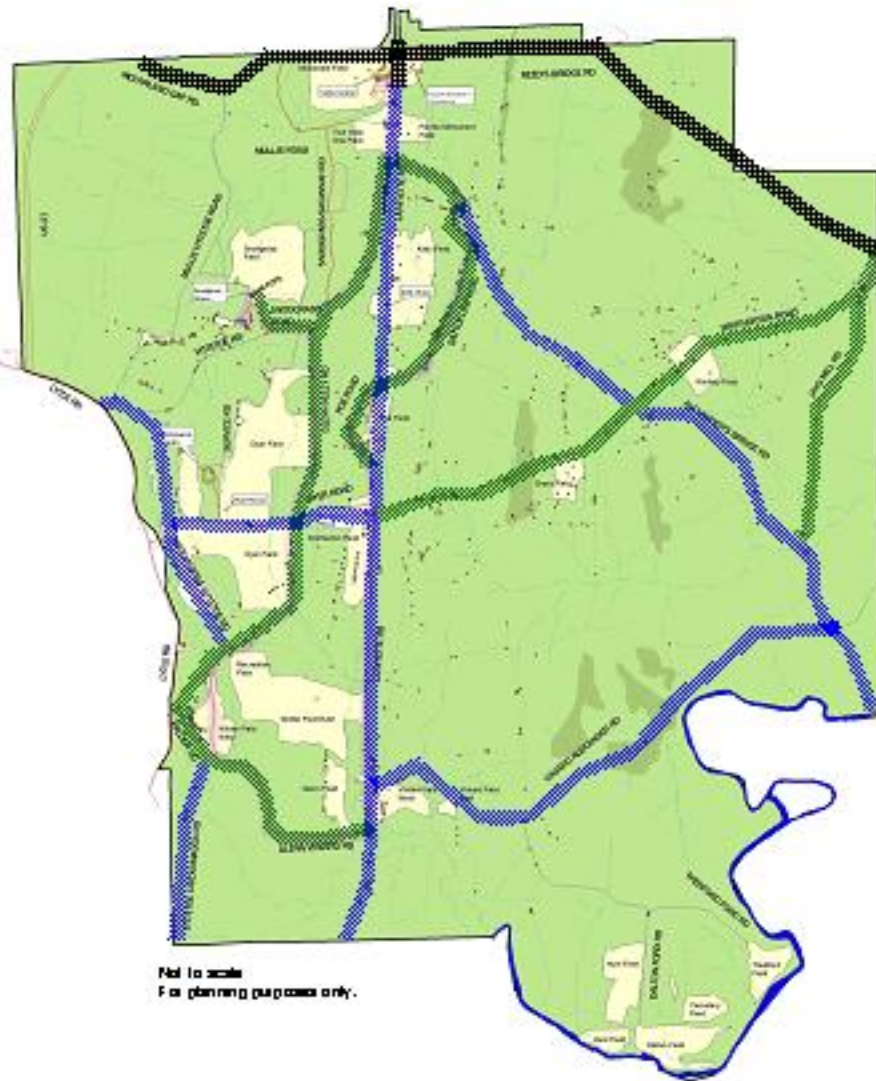


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Battlefield Subarea GMP – Multimodal Functional Classification



Strategy IV-6 - Roads

Interpretive Multimodal Route – Class III Special Purpose

Pavement Type: Paved with exposed aggregate

Modes Supported: Automobile, Bicycle, Pedestrian

Design Speed: 15 mph

Purpose: Interpretation of historic sites

Connector Road – Class II

Pavement Type: Paved with exposed aggregate

Modes Supported: Automobile

Design Speed: 20-25 mph

Purpose: Travel between Park sites, interpretation of historic sites, and secondary access to Park

Principal Park Road – Class I

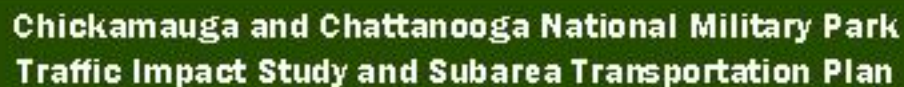
Pavement Type: Concrete

Modes Supported: Automobile

Design Speed: 25-30 mph

Purpose: Access to park and travel between Park sites

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Strategy IV-6 – Trails

Foot Trail – Class IV Primitive

Pavement Type: Unimproved

Modes Supported: Pedestrian

Design Speed: Walking

Purpose: Interpretation of historic sites and recreation

Equestrian Trail – Class IV Primitive

Pavement Type: Unimproved

Modes Supported: Equestrian and Pedestrian

Design Speed: walking to slow trot (5 to 10 mph)

Purpose: Interpretation of historic sites and recreation

Bike/Foot Trail – Class III Special Purpose

Pavement Type: Improved unpaved or paved

Modes Supported: Bicycle and Pedestrian

Design Speed: 10 - 15 mph

Purpose: Interpretation of historic sites and recreation

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Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park Traffic Impact Study and Subarea Transportation Plan

We need your input!

We need your feedback regarding proposed improvement strategies for the study areas.

We want to know:

- Whether proposed strategies are sufficient to meet current and future transportation needs.
- Suggestions of unidentified strategies to meet identified issues and needs.

Please take a few minutes to fill out the public comment form and place it in the box. Your comments will be reviewed and included in the plan.

Thank you.

